

Muris, George Mason University School of Law and O'Melveny and Meyers, and W. Stephen Cannon, Constantine Cannon, on behalf of the Merchants Payments Coalition, Inc., all of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 2703, to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965, with an amendment.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 14 public bills, H.R. 5831–5844; 2 private bills, H.R. 5845–5846; and 7 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 449–451; and H. Res. 926–929 were introduced.

Pages H5490–92

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H5492

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 925, providing for consideration of H.R. 5684, to implement the United States-Oman Free Trade Agreement (H. Rept. 109–579); and

H.R. 4804, to modernize the manufactured housing loan insurance program under title I of the National Housing Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–580).

Page H5490

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller of Michigan to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

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Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Monsignor Robert Sheeran, President, Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey.

Page H5383

Pledge Protection Act of 2005: The House passed H.R. 2389, to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the jurisdiction of Federal courts over certain cases and controversies involving the Pledge of Allegiance by a recorded vote of 260 ayes to 167 noes, Roll No. 385, after ordering the previous question.

Pages H5388–H5419, H5432–33

Agreed to:

Atkin amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 109–577) to add language making it explicit that the Act is effective immediately and applies to all pending and future litigation.

Pages H5417–19

Rejected:

Jackson-Lee of Texas amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 109–577) that sought to require that Federal courts have jurisdiction when free exercise of

religion is violated due to coerced or mandatory recitation of the Pledge; and

Pages H5416–17

Watt amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 109–577) that sought to preserve the authority of the United States Supreme Court to hear or decide any question pertaining to the interpretation of, or the validity under the Constitution of, the Pledge of Allegiance, as defined in 4 U.S.C. section 4, or its recitation (by a recorded vote of 183 ayes to 241 noes, Roll No. 384).

Pages H5415–16, H5432–33

H. Res. 920, the rule providing for further consideration of the bill was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 257 yeas to 168 nays, Roll No. 383, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 382.

Pages H5396–97

Suspension: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Preserving the Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial in San Diego, California, by providing for the immediate acquisition of the memorial by the United States: H.R. 5683, amended, to preserve the Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial in San Diego, California, by providing for the immediate acquisition of the memorial by the United States, by a (2/3) yea-and-nay vote of 349 yeas to 74 nays with 3 voting “present”, Roll No. 386; and

Pages H5422–26, H5433–34

Expressing sympathy for the people of India in the aftermath of the deadly terrorist attacks in Mumbai on July 11, 2006: H. Res. 911, amended, to express sympathy for the people of India in the aftermath of the deadly terrorist attacks in Mumbai on July 11, 2006, by a (2/3) yea-and-nay vote of 425 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 387.

Pages H5426–32, H5434–35

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Resolution condemning in the strongest possible terms the

July 11, 2006, terrorist attacks in India and expressing condolences to the families of the victims and sympathy to the people of India.” **Page H5435**

Presidential Veto Message—Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2005: Read a message from the President wherein he announces his veto of H.R. 810, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for human embryonic stem cell research, and explains his reasons therefor—ordered printed (H. Doc. 109–127). **Pages H5435–51**

Subsequently, the House voted to sustain the President's veto of H.R. 810, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for human embryonic stem cell research by a yea-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 388 (two-thirds of those present not voting to override). **Pages H5450–51**

Subsequently, the message and the bill were referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. **Page H5451**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House completed debate on the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further consideration of the measures is expected to resume tomorrow, July 20th:

Commending the National Aeronautics and Space Administration on the completion of the Space Shuttle's second Return-to-Flight mission: H. Con. Res. 448, to commend the National Aeronautics and Space Administration on the completion of the Space Shuttle's second Return-to-Flight mission; and **Pages H5419–22**

Condemning the recent attacks against the State of Israel, holding terrorists and their state-sponsors accountable for such attacks, supporting Israel's right to defend itself: H. Res. 921, to condemn the recent attacks against the State of Israel, holding terrorists and their state-sponsors accountable for such attacks, supporting Israel's right to defend itself (agreed by unanimous consent to extend the time for debate). **Pages H5451–80**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appear on page H5383.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H5396, H5397, H5432–33, H5433, H5434, H5434–35 and H5450–51. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at midnight.

Committee Meetings

GUEST WORKER PROGRAMS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Held a hearing entitled “Guest Worker Programs: Impact on

the American Workforce and U.S. Immigration Policy.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN SCHEDULE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality held a hearing entitled “DOE's Revised Schedule for Yucca Mountain.” Testimony was heard from Edward F. Sproat, III, Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, Department of Energy.

CLIMATE CHANGE ASSESSMENTS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Questions Surrounding the ‘Hockey Stick’ Temperature Studies: Implications for Climate Change Assessments.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NONADMITTED AND REINSURANCE REFORM ACT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 5637, Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2006.

COIN AND CURRENCY ISSUES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade, and Technology held a hearing entitled “Coin and Currency Issues Facing Congress: Can We Still Afford Money?” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Larry Felix, Director, Bureau of Engraving and Printing; and David A. Lebryk, Acting Director, U.S. Mint; Louise Roseman, Director, Division of Reserve Bank Operations and Payment Systems, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System; Scott Johnson, Deputy Special Agent in Charge, Criminal Investigative Division, U.S. Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security; Brent D. Glass, Director, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution; and public witnesses.

CUTTING GOVERNMENT WASTE

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled “Cutting Out the Waste: An Overview of H.R. 5766, Government Efficiency Act; and H.R. 3282, Abolishment of Obsolete Agencies and Federal Sunset Act of 2005.” Testimony was heard from Representatives Tiahrt and Brady of Texas; and public witnesses.